

Message

From: Sylvia Orduño [Ex. 6 Personal Privacy (PP)]
Sent: 9/14/2021 4:10:30 PM
To: bpauli [bpauli@kettering.edu]
CC: Fox, Radhika [Fox.Radhika@epa.gov]; Aguirre, Janita [Aguirre.Janita@epa.gov]; Cisar, Elizabeth [Cisar.Elizabeth@epa.gov]; Orr, Jeremy [jorr@nrdc.org]; Fritz, Jan (fritz) [jan.fritz@uc.edu]; vmking [vmking@marathonpetroleum.com]; smorduno [Ex. 6 Personal Privacy (PP)]; Nicholas.Leonard@glelc.org; [Ex. 6 Personal Privacy (PP)]; Jill@freshwaterfuture.org; elin@safewaterengineering.com
Subject: Re: can we talk tomorrow?

Dear Radhika,

Thanks very much for your prompt response and effort to learn more about this urgent situation. I have spoken with Rev. Pinkney and members of the petition drafting team and we are working to determine the best time to accommodate your availability tomorrow between 4-6pm EDT.

I will know more today by 5:30pm and will contact you then with a specific time.

NEJAC members: Ben, thanks for your message. Jan and Ginny, could you please send me your availability too, if possible?

With appreciation to all,
Sylvia

On Tue, Sep 14, 2021 at 11:08 AM Benjamin Pauli <bpauli@kettering.edu> wrote:
Hi all,

4:00 is best for me tomorrow, although I may be able to make 5:00 work.

Best,
Ben

On Tue, Sep 14, 2021 at 10:27 AM Fox, Radhika <Fox.Radhika@epa.gov> wrote:

Hi Sylvia and Colleagues:

Would it be possible to schedule time on Wed – either at 4pm or 5pm eastern – to discuss the issues outlined in the petition? I would welcome you all deciding who should be in the meeting and I will bring leadership from headquarters and Region 5

Janita Aguirre – my chief of staff – can arrange the meeting. And, Sylvia, Elizabeth Cisar – Senior Advisor in Office of Water can help think through the meeting if you want to speak for a few moments

I hope we can try and get this scheduled for tomorrow. I am on work travel Thur/Friday – so Monday 9/20 is an option too but would welcome talking sooner if your schedules can accommodate

My best, Radhika

Radhika Fox

Assistant Administrator for Water

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency

Fox.Radhika@epa.gov

From: Sylvia Orduño <[Ex. 6 Personal Privacy \(PP\)](#)>

Sent: Thursday, September 9, 2021 4:27 PM

To: Fox, Radhika <Fox.Radhika@epa.gov>

Cc: Tejada, Matthew <Tejada.Matthew@epa.gov>; Lewis, Sheila <Lewis.Sheila@epa.gov>; Jenkins, Fred <jenkins.fred@epa.gov>; Kumar, Chitra <Kumar.Chitra@epa.gov>; Orr, Jeremy <jorr@nrdc.org>; bpauli <bpauli@kettering.edu>; Fritz, Jan (fritzj) <jan.fritz@uc.edu>; vmking <vmking@marathonpetroleum.com>

Subject: Bringing your attention to an EPA petition on Benton Harbor

Dear Admin. Asst. Fox,

You may already be aware of this but I wanted to bring to your attention an emergency petition to EPA filed today for assistance with a 6th lead action level exceedance in Benton Harbor, Michigan. It is directed to you along with Administrator Regan, Region 5 Acting Admin Newton, and Acting Asst Admin Starfield. (You should have received it via email and regular mail.)

I am cc'ing OEJ leadership and Region 5 members of the NEJAC here too.

I recognize you are well aware of lead service lines issues in many EJ communities and are working hard to ensure that the Office of Water and other EPA offices can and will be responsive to the public health and infrastructure needs of impacted communities. Unfortunately, many efforts to address this small community's crisis with Michigan and Region 5 officials have not been met with the urgency that is required for this very

low-income, Black majority to have safe drinking water since 2018. We have a public health crisis underway amidst the COVID-19 pandemic that I hope you can help address in a very expedited manner.

Based on your open and welcoming conversations with the NEJAC on the importance of EJ issues, and that this community's concerns have come during the Council public comments and discussions, I thought it important to note this. We can't have soon enough a revised EPA lead and Copper Rule and resources to address the water crises in our communities.

Radhika, thank you for receiving this and I look forward to discussing the matter more with EPA HQ and Region 5 leadership and members of the Benton Harbor community in the near future. Please know that we will continue to follow up on efforts with local, state, and regional officials meanwhile.

With much appreciation and regard,

Sylvia Orduño

Michigan Welfare Rights Organization

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Benjamin J. Pauli, Ph.D.

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Department of Liberal Studies

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1700 University Ave

Flint, MI 48504

Flint Fights Back: Environmental Justice and Democracy in the Flint Water Crisis (MIT Press 2019):

<https://mitpress.mit.edu/books/flint-fights-back>

President of the Board, Environmental Transformation Movement of Flint (etmflint.org)

Vice Chair, Flint Water System Advisory Council

Member, National Environmental Justice Advisory Council